GOV. MORTON'S MESSAGE.

the Permunent Funds Aggregate 89,210. 304 of Principal-He Recommends Leate. ation Civing the Mayor of New York ity the Power of Removal and Anommission to Frame a Charter for the reater New York-He Advocates the Abolition of the Blanket Paster Bullot ad the Improvement of the Canals by Beepening or Otherwise-He Also Suggests the Appointment of a Commission o Co-operate with Similar Bodies in

In submitting to the Legislature of New York my first annual message, I am profoundly imbility that devolves to-day upon both the ment. The complete control of both of hese divisions of the public power and authorty has been transferred from one political party to another, and this transference of authority he people who ordained and wrought the hange, that great benefit would inure to the ommonwealth from the new order of people should, apart from all partisan otives, attract and gratify the highest am-

s to the furthest effort of human exertion. duties and obligations with which we are sonired to give effect to the labors of the nce. The closest care will be demanded framing and perfecting the laws made neces ommend the most prompt action, so that by the end of your session the purposes of the people will have been fully accomplished and wrought out, through your energetic and intelligent la-

The chief duty of the Governor of the State of

New York is "to take care that the laws are faithfully executed." The framers of Ameriitutions, national and State, have always kept in view the principle of separation een the legislative, executive, and judicial have been certain points where these coordinate branches have met and crossed each other. The legislative proceedings by that provision high charges him with the duty of communiture has enacted a measure, the Governor ust pass judgment upon it by giving or withself, in a cortain way, involved with both

me with great diffidence, because I feel that who must have a wider knowledge, gathered from their long experience, than I can be assumed to possess regarding the affairs of this great commonwealth.

TAXATION AND THE PINANCES.

present that we commence the new year unler favoring auspices. The business outlook is anch improved as compared with its condition year ago. The worst of the "hard times" as apparently passed away, and we may reaenably hope that during the ensuing year we will be blessed with a fair degree of prosperity. dition. There is no State indebtedness what ever, while the permanent funds, includ-ing the United States Deposit Fund, ag-gregate \$9,210,394.30 or principal. The Comptroiler informs me that the amount real-ized from the transfer tax (otherwise known as the inheritance tax) during the last fiscal year was \$1,688,954.24, and from the corporation and organization taxes \$1,706,640.87, making a total of \$3,484,585.11. The amount of he transfer tax was much less than was reselved last year, but it should be borne in mind that last year's receipts were greatly augmented r taxes paid upon some very large estates and ere very much greater than in any other year since the tax went into operation. The State re-silzed, however, during the last year more than half a million dollars in excess of the average of the eight preceding years. It is quite evident more than \$2,000,000 annually.

The amount realized from taxes on corporations was also somewhat less than it was during the fiscal year ending in 1893. This falling off was doubtiess attributable to the business dession by which the revenues and income of corporations were unfavorably affected, but the rinkage would have been much greater had the Comptroller been less diligent and efficient. has been the policy of the State for nearly a com direct taxation for State purposes. There but little prospect that the present indirect ax laws will bring into the treasury more than 4,000,000 annually, for a long time to come, taving from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 to be faised each year by direct taxation. I recomand the Legislature to devise ways and means, if practicable, for the enlargement of the field tion should be based upon equitable principles, and great care should be taken that the burdens placed upon business enterprise are not too

The rate last year was 2.18 mills on the dollar, a against 2.58 the year before. It is made up fellows: For the general fund. .55; for extraordinary repairs on the canals, .15; for mainsance and ordinary repairs on the canals, .21; for the free school fund, .05, and for the mainmance of State hospitals for the insane, 38. eaving out the last item, which was not inluded in the State tax levy until 1893, the rate ast year was the lowest in the history of the Rate, with the exception of the rate in 1891. then, owing to peculiar circumstances to which refer elsewhere in this document, nothing was hed for the general fund.

THE STATE'S FINANCIAL NEEDS.

The condition of the fiscal affairs of the State such as to domand the serious attention of le Legislature. The assumption by the State

been expended before a deliar of the tax will have reached the treasury.

This feature of the State's business has always been a source of embarrassment to its fiscal officers, and in 1883 the Comptroller recommended that a surplus of \$1,000,000 be created for the purpose of tiding the treasury over the non-tax-receiving period between Oct. 1 and April 15. This recommendation was adopted, and the million-deliar surplus resied; but in 1891 the party in power deemed it expedient to fix a low tax rate, in the face of heavy expenditures, and as a result the million-deliar reserve was included among the available assets of the treasury. But even the absorption of this surplus would not have saved the treasury from adelicit in that year had it not been that the \$2,913,000 received from the United States Government was also taken and used. Simultaneously with this absorption, or perversion, of the surplus fund, the Legislature passed various measures which in their ultimate effect, would tend to augment the expenses of the State, rotably the State-care-of-the-insane act, under the provisions of which the counties of New York and Kings propose to transfer from themselves to the State a burden of over a million and a quarter of dollars, annually expended for the care of the incane.

Bince 1891 it has been with the greatest difficulty that the current expenses of the Government have been provided for during the six and a half months from Oct. 1 to April 15, and

selves to the State a burden of over a million and a quarter of dollars, annually expended for the care of the incane.

Since 18B1 it has been with the greatest difficulty that the current expenses of the Government have been provided for during the six and a half months from Oct. 1 to April 15, and when unusual conditions have arisen, as in the present year, it has been necessary for the State to become a large borrower.

The necessity for a surplus was pressing before the State assumed the care of the incane, Oct. 1, 1808; but with the enormous monthly payments called for by the State-care-of-the-incane act, a surplus now seems indispensable to a proper maintenance of the State Government. Moreover, it is expected that New York and Kings counties will this year transfer the care of their indigent incane to the State, as they have a perfect right to do, in which case the expense of oaring for the lusane will be doubled. As matters now stand, nearly 5000, 000 are annually advanced from the treasury under the State-care-of-the-insane act before a single dollar of the tax levied for the support of the insane reaches the treasury.

In view of this condition of affairs, I respectfully recommend that the tax levy for the care of the insane be so adjusted as to yield a surplus of \$1,500,000. I would also recommend that such legal safeguards be finourn about this surplus of \$1,600,000. I would also recommend that such legal safeguards be finourn about this surplus of the tax levies for the support of the insane set an inform date or period within which all county treasuries shall be required to forward their tax collections to the State treasury. While the bulk of the payments are now made on and before April 1, the treasurers of some of the wealthiest counties in the State have fallen into the questionable practice of witholding the funds until July or August. The public good requires that this laxity shall be promptly remedied and prohibited.

The NERD of PUBLIC ECONOMY.

I especially desire to call attention to the

or reasonable and just economy in all State ex-penditures.

While I think a great reduction in expendi-tures could, without injury to the public service, be secured in all the departments of the State, I feel that a greater extravagance arises from the multiplicity of "commisssions," which have be secured in all the departments of the State, I feel that a greater extravagance arises from the multiplicity of "commissions," which have increased so rapidly in number and expense since about the year 1880. From an expenditure for the duties covered by these commissions of less than \$4,000 in 1880 we have seen a growth from year to year, until the cost of these commissions alone amounted last year to nearly a million and a quarter of dollers. Some of these commissions are unnecessary, and should be abolished. Some of them should be consolidated with or made bureaus of correlative departments of the State Government, and by such consolidation a very material reduction in the expense of their operation could be secured. I understand that last year an investigation of some of these commissions was undertaken by the joint committee—the Wavs and Means of the Assembly and the Finance of the Senate. That inquiry was prosecuted as far as possible during the session of the Legislature, but, owing to the great pressure of other labors at the end of the session, it was impossible to complete the work or to prepare and pass all of the necessary remedial lecislation. I think the sentiment of the people is more decided now than ever before that some radical change should be made on the lines above suggested. It is our duty to pay attention to this demand. The carrying out of this reform must be accomplished by the legislature. I would recommend, therefore, that a committee be appointed in such manner as may seem to the Legislature wise, fully authorized and empowered to investigate and report the expense of carrying on the various departments of the State, so that the special authorized, after due investigation, to report such remedial measures to the Legislature as may seem fit and proper. The appointment of this committee as early in the session as practicable appears to be desirable, so that the work shall be begun early, and the legislation pecessary to carry out the recommendations of the committee passed at this se

I call your especial attention to the question of the completion of the new Capitol. In 1890 work was recommenced on this great edifice, after a cessation of several years. The Commissioner of the New Capitol then estimated that the building could be completed for something less than \$2,300,000. About \$18,400,000 had then, aiready been expended upon it. The Legislature finally concluded to finish the structure and made an appropiation for that purpose. Succeeding Legislatures have taken measures in the same direction, with the result that appropriations aggregating more than \$3,000,000 have been made since the estimate above mentioned. The people are thoroughly tired of this seemingly endless grain upon the treasury. It is time that decisive steps be taken to prosecute this work to a close in the very near future, and within a reasonable limit of expenditure. While the Commissioner of the New Capitol is entitled to great credit for the excellent quality of the work that has been done under his supervision, there is a general feeling that the amount of money that is being expended is entirely too great. I suggest that the Legislature procurs from the Commissioner and other competent authorities specifications of thework necessary to complete the building, together with estimates as to the cost, with the view that, if deemed advisable, the work be completed by contract.

to complete the building, together with estimates as to the cost, with the view that, if deemed advisable, the work be completed by contract.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

The principal matters in respect of which the amendments to the Constitution impose an immediate duty upon the Legislature seem to me to be the following:

1. The new judiciary article (Article VI.) requires the Legislature to divide the State into four judicial departments, in each one of which is to sit a branch of the new appellate division of the Supreme Court. The abolition of the criminial courts of Oyer and Terminer and Courts of Sessions and of the civil Circuit Courts, and of the Court of Common Pleas and the Superior Court in New York, the City Court of Brecklyn, and the Superior Court of Buffalo, require a careful revision and modification of the great number of statutes, so as to adapt them to the new system. This is particularly important in regard to criminal jurisdiction. The transfer of the jurisdiction of the mine existing General Terms to the new appellate divisions, and the changes in the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals and of the right of appeal to that court, require extensive changes in the statutes upon those subjects.

In order to take over the business of these Superior City Courts, with their numerous clerks, offices, and records, legislation will be necessary to enable the County Clerks of the respective counties to undertake and carry on the business. The records of the Court of Common Pleas extend over a period of about 200 years, and are of great importance and value and should be carefully provided for. All of this work must be completed at this session of the Legislature, because the new courts are required to go into operation on the 1st of January, 1856. The necessity of early and sustained action on this subject is, therefore, apparent.

It is of special importance that the division of the State into four judicial departments should be made at the earliest date possible, in order that I may discharge The principal matters in respect of which the amendments to the Constitution impose an into the the following:

1. The new judiciary article Article VI, reported the property of the constitution of the constitution impose and into the the following:

1. The new judiciary article Article VI, reported the constitution of the c

year, and thus permitted, upon those tracks and grounds alone, the acts which remain oriminal in all other parts of the State. The revised Constitution, section 9 of article 1, adds to the old provision against lotteries a provision that neither pool seiling, bookmaking, nor any other kind of gambling, shall bereafter be authorized or allowed within this State, and requires the Legislature to pass appropriate laws to prevent offences against any of the provisions of the section. It is well understood that this provision is aimed at the race-track gambling permitted by the statute of 1837, above mentioned, and the Legislature, in obedience to the will of the people thus expressed, should, without delay, expunge the obnoxious law from the statute books.

4. The provisions of law establishing civil

the will of the people thus expressed, should, without delay, expunge the obnoxious law from the statute books.

4. The provisions of law establishing civil service Boards and examinations in this State have hitherto had only legislative and not constitutional sanction. The Court of Appeals has held that, in view of the express powers conferred by the Constitution upon the Superintendent of Fublic Works and the Superintendent of State Prisons, the Legislature had no authority to subject the appointments poste by these officers of civil service rules. It she believed that the civil service provision authorized in the revised Constitution has section to of article 5, obviates this difficulty and permits the Legislature to extend the civil service rules to the State prisons, the canals, and other public works of the State.

5. Upon a separate submission of section 10 of article 7 the people have, by a majority of about 115,000, much larger than that cast for any other amendment, declared their will that the canals ishail be improved in such manner as the Legislature shall provide by law.

6. The new provision of section 1 of stricle 0 requires the Legislature to provide for the maintenance and support of a system of free common schools, wherein all the children of the State may be educated. That is now far from being the case, and the Legislature ought to take immediate steps to fulfil this mandate. Special investigation should be made to ascertain what children may be cut off from educational facilities by force of the new provision of section 4 of article 9.

investigation should be made to ascertain what children may be cut off from educational facilities by force of the new provision of section 4 of article 9.

7. Section 20 of article 3 requires the Legislature to provide by law for the occupation and employment of prisoners in the State prisons, and as the same section prohibits the continuance of the present system of employment after the 1st of January, 1897, no time should be lost in considering how the Legislature shall obey this mandate.

8. The prohibition against selling the Onondaga sait springs has been abrocated. These springs are a constant source of useless and, therefore, unjustifiable expense to the State, and the disposition to be made of them ought to be promptly considered and discernined.

9. Extensive improvements in the agricultural regions of the State are understood to be waiting only for the Legislature to give effect to the new provision in section 7 of article 1, which provides for the passage of general drainings laws, to which I make reference elsewhere.

10. The new provisions contained in sections 11 to 13 of article 8 require the Legislature to provide for a general system of visitation and inspection of charitable institutions, insane asylums and prisons, and for the regulation of public aid to charitable and correctional institutions, wholly, or partly under private control. These requirements are aimed at grave existing abuses and should be promptly compiled with.

existing abuses and should be promptly compiled with.

REFORM LEGISLATION FOR NEW YORK CITY.

A Power of Removal bill, as a means of securing better government in cities, is demanded by a large part of the people. This requirement has been undoubtedly accentuated, if not originated, by the exposure of wholesale corrupt practices and administrative abuses in the municipal departments of the city of New York. These have been brought to the public notice in so conspicuous a manner that no characterization from me is needed to deepen the impression they have wrought in the public mind that prompt and radical measures for their correction are imperative. And this sentiment exists not merely in the metropolis, but among the people of the State who have, by an expression most unusual in its volume, evinced their reprobation of these systematized official crimes, and have brought into the places of authority men especially selected for the work of eradicating the evils so overwhelmingly condemned by the power of the sufrage as the recent election. The Legislature no doubt recognizes that one of its most solemn and imperative duties will be to cooperate with the representatives of reform sentiment and action in New York city and conform its legislature acts to the desires of the people at the earliest possible day. A Power of Removal bill for the city of New York placing in the hands of the Mayor absolute and unquestionable authority to remove any of the appoint their successors, is an immediate requirement at your bands. The special committee of the Senate, known as the Lexow committee, which has been investigating the city departments for some months past, will doubter a successors in a numeliate of the report to the Legislature carly in the present month, and is expected also to recommend various measures or plans for needed reform. In the mean time, the duty is incumbent on you, under the expressed will of the people of the metropolis, to give to the Mayor of New York place.

THE GREATER NEW YORK. THE GHEATER NEW YORK.

Last year the Legislature enacted a law submitting to the voters of New York, itrooklyn, and adjacent cities the question of bringing all their population into one great municipality. The people of the cities involved in the proposition have declared by popular vote in favor of this consolidation, and it now becomes the duty of the Legislature to take such further steps as are necessary to carry their wishes into effect. The framing of a charter for a city of more than three millions of people is a comprehensive, delicate and important is a comprehensive, delicate and important task; one that should not be entered upon without careful and serious preparation. It is doubtful whether the Legislature, in view of the many duties that will press upon it during the coming season, will be able to fully perform this labor. I suggest, therefore, that a commission be at once created, to be composed of the most capable citizens of the various localities interested, and to be charged with the power and the duty of framing a charter and reporting the same to the present Legislature, if such a plan can be drafted and submitted before the session closes.

One of the most important subjects which you will be called upon to consider is that of improving our election laws. The people are vitally interested in honest elections. There is an imperative public demand that the ballet box shall be made to register, so far as possible, the free and uncorrunted will of the legal veters. This State was the first that attempted a thorough reformation of the election system, but owing to differences between the registative and executive branches of the Government upon the subject, nothing was accomplished until 1890, when the present Ballot law was placed upon the statute books. That law is generally conceded to be very inadequate, and the opinion is almost universal that it should be radically changed. While it has, to a certain extent, secured secrecy THE ELECTION LAWS.

ticipated the action of the Convention by pass-ing an act providing for bi-partisan Election Response. THE STATE CANALA.

stepaced the action of the Convention by passing an act providing for bi-partisan Election Boards.

The improvement and administration of the State canals should command most careful and enlightened attention at the present session. Since the inception of that great enterprise, the Eric Canal, more than three-quarters of a century ago, the people of this State have continually recognised the impetus it has given to the general progress and commercial prosperity of the commonwealth. It has been a prime factor in the establishment and maintenance of the commonwealth. It has been a prime factor in the establishment and maintenance of the port of New York. When the canal was constructed and for many years afterward, there were no railways to compete with this great waterway, and the natural products of practically the whole of the then limited new country, to the north and west of this State, found by this channel their way to the markets of the world. The canal has now for its competitors five of the most perfect trunk-line systems of railway in the world, administered and operated by master minds and backed by enormous capital, the security of which itse in the maintenance of a successful rivairy. And while the railways have made steady and rapid progress on the line of improved methods and inventions, the system of operating the canal is soarcely classified. As a consequence, largely, of these diverse conditions, the tomange of the canal has shown a contineous decrease during the last few years, and for the year just closed the tonange was the smallest since 1859. In the past season the railways have carried 49.45 per cent, of the total amount of grain delivered at the port of New York, and the canals sold per cent, is a much grain as New York, while Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boaton, and Montreat, together, exported 3t, 155,300 bushels, or nearly one-nail as much grain as New York, while Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boaton, and Montreat, together, exported 3t, 155,300 bushels, or rearly one-nail as much grain as New State are active rivals of the canal, statistics show that these rail lines have not carried all of the freight not borne by the canals, but that other railways, States, and ports have been growing opulent and importent in handling the rich burdens which might have been, in great part, controlled for our own commercial advantage. The Dominion of Canada, too, has expended, and is still expending, vest sums in Governmental aid to the canals of that country, and is also an active competitor against our canal system as well as against our railways. It is unnecessary to submit here the statistics which go to show the danger which threatens the commerce of our State. These details will come before you in the official annual report of the Superintendent of Public Works. It is my duty, however, to emphasize the lesson which these figures teach, and to urge upon you the need of prompt and statesmanike action in providing for the improvement of the canals and their administration upon a sound business basis, unmixed with policies.

AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE

There is one provision of the revised Constitution in which many farmers of the State are
greatly interested. Under the old Constitution
a doubt existed as to the power of the Legislature to provide a method by which owners of
agricultural lands could construct necessary
ditches for the drainage of their own lands
across the lands of others. As a consequence
those who owned low or swamp lands, or lands
upon which in certain seasons the aurface waters
settled, have been compelled, in many instances,
to suffer great hardships, because they could not
conduct the water across a neighbor's premises,
even by paying a just compensation for the
privilege. This right is given by section 7,
Article 1, of the new Constitution, and I recommend that the Legislature pass an act, at an
early day, that will provide a speedy and economical means of relief for those who are interested in the matter.

HOADS AND HIGHWAYS.

HOADS AND BIGHWAYS.

The subject of good roads is one which merits thoughtful attention at your hands, for it is year by year becoming of larger importance in the public eye. Nearly all of the various State Legislatures which will be in session during this year will be engaged in efforts to secure practical results in the direction of selecting approved methods, though on a variety of lines or theories. The information obtained by the Office of Road Inquiry, a bureau of the Federal Department of Agriculture, and which has had correspondence on the subject with all of the State Governments, is that wide divergence of opinion exists on the whole question, and it is feared that it may, in consequence, be difficult to scoure sound practical results. Not less than haif a dozen plans are in effect or contemplation, a fact that is unsloubtedly regrettable, and it would seem desirable that the Empire batte should, with its characteristic progressiveness, be a leader in the establishment of an acceptable system of road improvement, extension, and maintenance. The advocates of road improvement in several Sintes are urging the establishment of a temporary Joint Commission, by the respective Legislatures, such Commission to include, besides members of urging the establishment of a temporary Joint Commission, by the respective Legislatures, such Commission to include, besides members of both legislative houses, representatives of road improvement organizations. If this plan is adopted by a number of the State Legislatures the Federal Office of Road Inquiry proposes to act as a medium of communication between them, as well as a source of information. I think that the Legislature might, by a committee, put itself into communication with the national and State authorities on the subject and acquire all available information the subject and acquire all available information the subject and acquire all available information. and experiments, with a view to obtaining reads, constructed on wise and economical prin-ciples, throughout the State.

ciples, throughout the State.

CONVICT LABOR.

The Constitutional amendment, which takes effect two years hence, forbidding the State irom employing convicts at the State and county prisons, julis, and reformatories in any industrial arts or useful occupations the products of which may come into competition with the work or products of the people, imposes a grave duty upon the lewmaking power. No condition is so subversive of both moral and physical discipline, especially among bodies of men under punitive restraint, as that of idleness, and the restriction now imposed upon their occupation will render it no easy task to provide employment within the law, and to make the convicts yield an appreciable proportion of the cost of their maintenance, if their services can be legally applied to the building and improvement of reads and highways, the manufacture of clothing and other articles, the reising of food supplies on State farms, and other like pursuits, all for use in State institutions, the solution of the problem may be less difficult than it now appears to be. The character of the laws framed to accomplish this end will be closely scrutinized by the poople, and should be such as to relieve the industrial workers and their employers from the competition of prison labor, against which they have for years past so carnestly protested. CONVICT LABOR.

THE CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.

The civil service laws of the State have been powerfully refusored by the adoption of an amendment to the organic law, recognizing this great reform principle and extending its operation, and the lawmaking authority is required to give effect to those provisions. It may be well considered whether the prudent and consistent extension and perfection of the system will not exsert a most beneficial effect, in averting and rendering impressible many of the corrupt and otherwise reprehensible practices which have of late scandaized so many branches of the public service. Under this constitutional recognition, the civil service laws will become applicable to municipal and county officials and employees, as well as to State employees. The same section also gives recognition to the principle that honorably discharged solders and saliers of the civil war shall be entitled to preference in appointment and promotion from the eligible lists, without reference to their standing on any such list from which the appointment or promotion may be made.

THE BANK DEPARTMENT. THE CIVIL SERVICE LAWS. THE BANK DEPARTMENT.

THE BANK DEPARTMENT.

The great increase in the resources of the various institutions supervised by the Hank Department during the last decade entitles it to special mention. Ten years ago the total resources of these institutions were a little over \$345,000,000. To-day, by reason of the increase in the number and business of banks of deposit, savings banks, and trust companies, together with the building and iona associations and foreign mortgage companies, which were placed under the supervision of the department in 1860, there appears to be an increase in resources of about \$580,000,000, making a total of \$1,420,000,000,000,000,000,000.

there appears to be an increase in resources of about \$580,000,000, making a total of \$1,425,000,000.

In the revision and resnariment of the lanking law in 1802 many valuable amendments were made; but there are several amendments which might still be made with the effect of further improving the law. For instance, as the law now reads, a bank may commence business by paying in 50 per cent, of its capital stock, the balance to be paid in in installments of 10 per cent, at the end of each succeeding month until it is fully paid. Experience has shown that the remaining portion of the capital stock is not paid in as provided by law, and more or less confusion arises over the payment of the remaining half. I am of the opinion that the whole capital stock should be actually paid up before the new bank is authorized to commence business. A number of banking institutions have been forced into bankruptey for one or all of the following causes, to wit: The forces method by which officers and employees of a bank may borrow money from the institution, upon their own motion, to such amount as they may dearer; the leaning of funds by a bank upon the accurity of its own capital stock; and the tendency of so many banks to pay out their profits in dividends, rathor than to create a research is and responsable surplus fund with which to meet inevitable lesses.

I would responded that the Banking law be

business, and that they should be prohibited from loaning money upon the security of their own capital stock.

ANINGS BANKS.

There are not a few instances in this state where savings banks and banks of discount are located in the same room, and are controlled by the same management; at one desk the savings bank officers receive deposits; at another desk, close by, the discount bank receives and pays out moneys. The Board of Trustees of the one institution is composed mainly, if not whally, of the directors of the other, so that when trouble arises to the one the other is also, invariably, involved. At least two instances have occurred within the last two years where discount banks have suspended, and savings banks doing business in the same room have been forced into failure for the reason that their entire available funds were "tied up" in the suspended bank. This condition of the suspended bank. This condition of the other, and the available funds of savings banks should be deposited in such a manner as to be beyond the perils which may involve the discount banks.

FURLIC INSTRUCTION. BAYINGS BANKS. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

It is a matter for congratulation that the leadership of New York Stare in educational affairs is everywhere recognized. Her present system of supervision and examinations is uplifting the calling of the teacher, giving more assurance of employment to those well qualified, and insuring to the public a more adequate return for the liberal expenditure that has always homorably distinguished the Empire State. Buildings, equipment, library, and apparatus do not make a school. It is upon the fitness of the teacher that our educational system depends for its results. Toward this end our State is making unexampled progress. Our normal schools, our teachers' institutes, and teachers' training classes are growing in ediciency and are disseminating a professional spirit which reaches the smallest country schools. Corresponding progress appears alon, the distinctly different line of history clucation. Particularly by concentrating in a responsible bedy the supervision and control of higher institutions of learning and professional proparation, the public interests are more adequately protected. It is recommended that the Legislature provide liberally but with economic discretion for the carrying on of the system of public education.

The state insurance department.

The business of insurance has reached such vast proportions within this state, and the interests involved in its proper conduct are so vitat to the welfare of our citizens, that the placing of it under the controlling supervision of the State, as was done in 1850, was a mater of public policy, the propriety of which cannot be well questioned at this time. It is supervised under the authority of laws that I think still need considerable amendment and revision. In 1892 a revision of these laws was undertaken and in a manner accomplished, but the statutes relating to the supervision of the business of insurance still need radical amendment in many respects, and it seems proper to suggest such legislation as may result in the enactment of laws governing the regulation by the State of this business, the intelligent supervision of which is so essential to the best interests of the people of the State.

The revision of 1892 was accomplished through the medium of a commission appointed to revise the insurance law, as well as other laws. The scheme of revision contemplated more particularly the codification and rearrangement of such laws relating to insurance as existed at the time. The result has been that the law is practiculty the recepation of not statutes, which under changed conditions, brought about by the development and progress of this business, are, in numerous instances, unfitted to deal intelligently or effectively with this interest as it should be dealt with.

The State Commission in Langey reports that THE STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

THE DEPENDENT INSAME.

The State Commission in Lunacy reports that while the reduction in expenses for maintenance of the State hospitals for the insame, for the first year under the new system, amounted to \$2.75,.000, exclusive of the expenditure of surplus funds, as compared with the last year's expenditures under the old system, there will be a deficiency of income amounting to \$219,000. This arises from the insufficiency of the appropriation, and you will be called upon to provide for this shortage in addition to the usual tax for maintenance. For the next fiscal year, the gross sum to be raised, therefore, will be about \$1.800,000, exclusive of the amount necessary to provide for additional building, repairs, and improvements. Examination shows that for the past eight years the appropriations for buildings, repairs and improvements alone have averaged more than \$1,000,000 per year. Careful inquiry into the subject leads to the conclusion that, with a more indictous plan of both appropriation and expenditure, one-half of this annual amount would have been ample for the purpose. But so long as the practice exists of making separate THE DEPENDENT INSANE.

stools were filled with Chinamen when Ditman the appropriations for buildings, repairs and Improvements alone have averaged more than \$1,000,000 per year. Careful inquiry into the subject leads to the conclusion that, with a expenditure, one-half of the annual amount would have been ample for the purpose. But so long as the practice exists of making separate appropriations for each institution, without whole, such excessive extenditures are likely to result.

It is therefore suggested that, in lieu of this unbusinessike method, the annual tax for neither the provide for the needs of all the State hospitals, including additional accommodations for the annual roas of immates as well as for repairs and improvement of the state hospitals including additional accommodations for the annual roas of the state of the stat

insane act.

MAINTENANCE OF STATE CHARITIES.

The new and enlarged duties imposed upon the State Board of Charities by the fourteenth sention of the sighth article of the revised Constitution calls, in my judgment, for immediate action on the part of the Legislature, to enable that Board properly to discharge those duties. Payments by the several civil divisions of the State to charitable, elsemosynary, correctional, and reformatory institutions, either wholly or partly under private control, cannot hereafter be made for any innants of any such institution who is not received and retained therein pursuant to rules established by the State Board of Charities. The evident object of this provision was to secure, through the instrumentality of the Board, the effectual prevention of any payments for sectarian objects. To accomplish this purpose the existing machinery of the State Board of Charities is wholly inadequate, and a sulfable act should be passed making it the duty of the Haard to appoint inspectors of these institutions, regulating the manner of making such payments as prescribed by the Constitution, and containing such other provisions as, in your judgment, shall tend to secure the most economical and intelligent care of such immates and carry this new and important provision of the Constitution into effectual operation.

STATE FORKSTRY. MAINTENANCE OF STATE CHARITIES.

and carry this new and important provision of the Constitution into effectual operation.

The preservation of the forest domain of the State is a subject of deep concern to the whole community, involving as it does the preservation of the ratural sources of water supply. Peculiar significance was given to this question in the recent Constitutional Convention. By the fact that the amendment providing for the keeping of the forest reservations forever as wild forest lands was urged by important commercial interests, and was the only amendment that was adopted willoud desent. Due attention should be given to the accessary legislation to carry the will of the people into effect. The carry ingout of these provisions will also tend to the preservation of game birds and animals in the public lands, a subject worthy of legislative attention, especially with respect to the advisability of prohibiting the use of dogs in the buntled animals almost invasiably take refuge as the numerous lakes pends, and brooks, where they are so helploss that they fail victims to other hunters who lie in wait to use or aprivace.

The preser instruction of the military and

hunters who lie in wait for easy captures.

THE STATE THOOPS.

THE STATE THOOPS.

The proper maintenance of the military and naval forces of the State is a marier which it is necessary for me to impress upon you with more than ordinary directness. The National fuser of New York is concreted to be record to hone, and it must not be allowed to deteriorate. There is one respect in which the State treaps, both military and maxil, and the offerer comminding them, begin to corinnely feet their inelliciency, and that is, the interiority of their weapons. The State authorities will, within a year at the furthest, have to give serious and businesselike attention to the matter of supplying the thuard with arms of motions hardern, adapted to the requirements of the bishoof arsonable surplus fund with which to meet inevitable leases.

I would recommend that the Banking law be so amended that the officers having the physical control of the funds of a bank whould not be allowed to lean money to themselves, but that their applications for leans should be submitted to the Board of Directors, and the concort of a majority of such Board should be required, precisely as general customers procure loans. Also that banks should be required to account of the propice of the pisn of care target and were devised to meet.

I would recommend that the Banking law be tampled to the requirements of the pisn of care target which their new tactical mandouvres contemplate and were devised to meet.

I with these suggestions and recommendations is committed to promite to your hands the labertons duty of the State at this session. I don't not that can be supplied to the requirements of the pisn of care target and were devised to meet.

I would recommend that the Banking law be targeted to the requirements of the pisn of care targets of the pisn of care targeted to the requirements of the pisn o BEST&CO

Clearing Sale. Children's Cloaks.

Girls' Long Coats, faucy mixed cloths, two full shoulder Capes. Sizes 6 to 14 years,

\$5.00, Former prices \$7.75 to \$10.50.

Girls' Long Coats, two full Capes and Collar trimmed with Fur,

\$5.75, Former prices \$9 to \$12.

Girls' Long Coats, fancy mixed cloths, full shoulder Capes. Sizes 6 to

\$6.50,

Former prices \$11 to \$15.

Girls' Long Coats, deep military caps and hood. Sizes 8 to 14 years.

\$6.50, Former prices \$10.75 to \$12.50.

Misses' Cheviot Jackets, Sizes 12,

\$6.75, Former price \$11.86,

Misses' Chinchilla Jackets. Sizes 12,

\$6.85, Former price \$12.00. All this season's goods.

60-62 West 23d St.

A CHINESE RESTAURANT ROW.

The Owner Tells What Happened in His One Lung's restaurant at 16 Mott street,

New Year's night, Bob McAvoy, Ben O'Leary, Billy Ditman, and Mike Hays got into a row. Mr. Ditman's fingers were chewed, Mr. Hays re-ceived two black eyes, and Mr. O'Leary and Mr. McAvoy were sights when the battle was over.

One Lung was in charge when the row occurred. The restaurant is on the second floor and Hays came in. One Lung found two more

George Dietrich Tossed John Bernard Over the limitators.

George Dietrich of 314 Stagg street, Williamsburgh, got into an argument late on New Year's night with the sixteen-year-old daughter of John Bernard, who lives in the same house. He called the girl a hard name and she told her mother. Mrs. Bernard remonstrated with Dietrich. He tried to strike her and she called her husband. Bernard ordered Dietrich to go into his own room, which Dietrich refused to do, and told Bernard in return that he had a notion to thrash

him.
Dietrich seized Bernard by his legs and tried to throw him over the balusters. Bernard held on to a rung, and when he got on his feet he told Dietrich that he was going to have him arrested.

Dietrich caught Bernard by his legs again and tossed him down the stairs. Then he ran down and kicked him several times in the side. Bernard was carried to his room and the police

nard was carried to his were notified.

Hernard's left legand right wrist were broken, and he also had internal injuries. He was taken to St. Catherine's Hespital. His condition was serious last night.

District was arrested, and in the Ewen Street Police Court yesterday he was remanded to await the result of Bernard's injuries.

Got \$49.75 and \$5 Cents' Worth of Coal for a \$50 Confederate Note.

Charles Harris, a negro who lives at 216 West Thirtieth street, went to the grocery of Frank Mctlabe at 500 West Twenty-ninth street on Monday afternoon and asked for 25 cents' worth of coal. He gave a \$50 Confederate bill in payment and the difference was paid in good money. When Medate discovered that the bill was worthless he had Harris arrested. Harris was arraigned in the Jefferson Market Courty centrols and Justice Tainton held him in \$500 bath for triol in General Sessions.

FOR EVERY MAN. ONLY \$1.



THE MOST EMINENT SPECIALIST IN AMERICA. Physical heisisty, and all Discusses and Weak-heas of Alex. CURES the polaring the ma-dicuted and CURES the polaring the ma-person or by letter. Prespectus, with testimonials, FREE Large back. The Science of Lifet FREE Large back. The Science of Lifet easy, 570 pp. 126 tertainable prescriptions for acute and thrould discusses, full gill, only \$1.05, double scaled. NEW SCHOOL LAW'S AIM.

TO PUT A STOP TO CHILDREN'S COMPULSORY IGNORANCE.

Where There is Lack of School Facti-ties It is to Be Supplied Despite the Apportionment Forfetture Clause, The new School law, Introduced by Senator Pound, which went into effect on the first of the year, is of peculiar interest to those connected with educational matters. It has been approved by the superintendents of schools throughous the State, by the various School Commissioners, by the Department of Public Instruction, and by school trustees. The principal point of the new law is to provide for a system of compulsory education, which it is intended will be more thorough than the old law, which de-

clared that parents must send their children to

One clause of the new law provides that school districts failing to enforce the spirit of the law in obliging all children of suitable age to attend school shall forfett one-half of their school ap-portionment fund. According to some who have studied the situation, the clause regarding the forfeiture of part of the appropriation in those districts which fall to enforce the law cannot with justice be carried out throughout the entire State. In some of the districts there is a lack of accommodation for all the children in the district were they to be sent to school. Until adequate facilities are provided for the accom-modation of all the children, they cannot be ex-

pected to attend school.

According to the new law an habitual truant may be arrested and forcibly made to attend a place of education. The question is asked, How place of education. The question is asked, How can a person be punished for not going to school when sufficient accommodation is not provided? Likewise, if the district not having a sufficient number of schools should be deprived of a part of their school fund, matters would be made only the more complicated, as in that case they would be unable to extend the facilities for the necessary accommodation of all their scholars. In the opinion of State Superintendent of Public Instruction Croaker, the clause in question cannot at present be compiled with in every part of the State. The only remedy will be to provide the necessary school accommodation as seen as possible.

Taken in its proper light, the meaning of the new law is construed to put a stop to the systematic idling which is practised by certain classes of children who should be in school. Under the law special agents are to be appointed in the various school districts throughout the State, whose business it will be to see that the proper spirit of the law is carried out. When these agents find that from the very necessity of the case this becomes impossible, it will be their business to report the lack of accommodation in their district.

In regard to the apportionment of school funds, it is the intention of the various authorities in charge of the matter to distribute the money so that it will do the most good. A law compelling the strict attendance of school by children has long been in vogue in some of the European countries with the most beneficial results. The new law which has just gone into effect is considered by persons interested in a universal education as a step in the right direction.

One of the benefits expected to be derived. can a person be punished for not going to school

tion.

One of the benefits expected to be derived from the new law is the forcing of the providing of proper school accommodations in every section of the State. It has been suggested that a part of the money set aside by the State for the purpose of higher sducation be used in the building up of the elementary school, where the most good could be done among the general class of pupils. Over \$200,000 was appropriated by the State for higher education last year.

A Bullet in the Forehend Lays Him Up for Only a Day or Two.

It is the unanimous opinion of the Madison street station that Policeman Thomas Heaphy might face the whole United States army and not be killed. Heaphy must be invulnerable. If there was ever any doubt on the subject his last experience settles the question, for a 38calibre revolver bullet, at point-blank range, failed to get through his skull.

At 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening, while Policeman Cornelius S. Cronin was fiddling with his revolver in the section room up stairs, the recolver went off, and Heaphy, who was passing the door, caught the bullet square in the fore-

the door, caught the bullet square in the foremead. Heaphy put his hand to his head, and
was much astonished to find his fingers covered
with blood. He waiked down stairs and told
sergeant McSweeny that something had hit
him, he did not quite know what.
"Still, I am sure there is something there," he
said, pointing to his head. McSweeny was
somewhat alarmed and summoned an ambulance from the Gouverneur Hospital. When
the ambulance came Hoaphy Stepped in quite
unconcerned and was driven off to the hospital.
If Heaphy though little of it, poor Cronin belleved that the wound would prove mortal and
that he himself would be hanged for sure. He
was with difficulty reassured, and went on duty
with a pale face and quaking heart.
Kelly, seeing a large hole in the middle of his
forehead just below the hair, took out his probe
expecting to find the bullet somewhere in the
middle of the brain. No such thing: It was
found under the scalp, not an inch from the
wound, flattened by contact with the Irishman's
skull.
When the bullet had been taken out, Heaphy

When the builet had been taken out, Heaphy When the builet had been taken out, Heaphy

skull.

When the bullet had been taken out, Heaphy wanted to go to duty straightway. However, the doctor apprehended crystpiclas, and Sergeant McSweeny would not have one of his men going about with a helmet surmounting a bandaged head; so Heaphy, soreig against his will, was kept in the hospital for the night. He was discharged at neon yesterday, and will be on duty again in a day or two. He says that the wound did not hurt much. He felt a sort of thading, as though there was electricity in his head.

Hoaphy is said to be the most efficient man in the Madison street squad. He makes more arrosts than any two others. About a month ago he was set upon by striking cloakmakers, and had his arm broken, receiving a mauling at the same time that would have killed any other man.

He is not more than five feet eight inches in height nor over 140 pounds in weight, but for what he lacks in bulk he makes up in spirit. He comes from the county Kerry, where there are plenty of shilledahs, a fact which may account for his impervious skull.

A LOVING CUP FOR MR. GODKIN. Presented by a Score of Women Who A4mire His Work for Reform.

Mr. E. L. Godkin was surprised on New Year's eve by the presentation to him of a silver loving cup, the gift of about a score of women who have taken part in the recent reform movement. The cup was presented at a reception given for

Mr. and Mrs. Godkin by Mr. Gustav E. Kissel at the latter's home, 15 West Sixtconth street. It had been intended to have it a small affair. but before the evening was over 300 people had gathered there. The cup, which was a small, gathered there. The cup, which was a small, plain silver one, with no inscription except Mr. Godkin's name and the date, was presented to him by Hishop Potter. To all those present except the subscribers to the cup the affair was a surprise, and mystery still surrounds it, as no one, not even Mr. Godkin, knows who the women were who made the gift. Recorder Goff and Joseph H. Choate made little species, and the reception became a sort of a final jubileo over the late election.

One of the women who was interested in giving the cup was anxious to impress upon a Surreporter that there was no political significance in the affair.

"All those interested in it," she said, "were old personal friends and admirers of Mr. Godkin, and gave the cup as a foken of their friendship. It was purely private and personal throughout, so much so that I cannet give any of the names of those interested. We gave him the cup as a memonto of the old year that had brought us so much, and because we thought his services in the cause of reform had not been fully appreciated and we wished to show him that by some at least they were."

at least they were."

John Brown Accused of Attempting Blackmall.
RONDOUT, Jan. 2.-Recorder Murray this

morning held John Brown of 135 Perry street, New York, for the Grand Jury on a charge of attempting blackmail. A hearing was given him. The charge is made by Dr. William Komble, one of the foremost physicians in this kemble, one of the foremost physiciam in this
city. Last summer Brown secretar married
Miss Mary Skelton, a mood-looking young gir.
Hving in this city. A few weeks ago Dg. Kemble
received a letter from linown charging him with
criminal malpractice on Mrs. Brown soon after
her marriage, and threatening to make it warm
for the Bootor if he did not settle. This letter
was followed, a few days ago, by a summons in
a civil action begun by Brown against Kemble,
claiming \$5,000 damages. Soon after receiving
this summons Kemble swore out a warrant for
Brown's arrest.

City Treasurer Rieley of Brooklyn, in a statement which he prepared at the request of Andrew H. Green, for use in framing a Greater New York bill, reports that the not debt of the city on Dec. 41, 1864, was \$49,451,385,49.

